GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:272
ANSWERED ON:20.11.2002
POLICY FOR PURCHASE OF MEDICINES IN CGHS
Y.G. MAHAJAN

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have suffered loss of crores of rupees for not adopting the procedure of whole sale purchase of medicines for C.G.H.S.;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Government are contemplating to formulate a concrete policy for the purchase of medicines; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) to(d): The bulk purchase of medicines for CGHS are made through the Medical Stores Organisation(MSO) of the Dte.GHS. In cases where the MSO is not able to supply medicines or the Govt. specialist prescribes medicines outside the Govt. formulary, the CGHS procures the same based on the individual prescription of the beneficiaries from the authorised local chemists appointed by the CGHS. In the case of urgently needed drugs, authority slips are issued to the beneficiaries for immediate procurement through the authorised local chemist.

The MSO has a well-defined set procedure for purchasing medical stores which it follows for all the purchases made.These purchases are done at the most economical rate and therefore, the question of loss from purchases made by MSO does not arise.